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Adv. Box C'
(16.)

THE NEW
LIGHT,
OR

A Lecture according to the Spirit,

Whereby the Truth of Falsehood is made manifest, to the
great comfort of the *Dear Sisters*, and the rest of
the *Saints*.

Delivered in a Tub-Lecture by *Thomas A Grace*
Button-maker, an inspired *Quaker*, and wel-
wisher to the *Anabaptists*, and the rest of the di-
vided Assemblies of the Saints: in a Meeting-
house near *Bedlam*, the last day of the fifth
Month. 1664.

Written by *W. C.*



Printed in the seventh Month of the year 1664.

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Written by W. C.

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The new Light.

MY beloved Sisters and my well infected Brethren, attend unto what the Spirit hath moved me to speak unto, as you shall find it written in the first Chapter of *Bell* and the *Dragon*, and the third verse, and the words (if my Spirit mislead not) are these,

Now the Babylonians had an Idoll they called Bell, and there were spent upon him every day 12. great measures of fine Flower, 40. Sheep, and 6. great vessels of Wine.

I will first of all (as I ought) make a division in the former part of my Text, and leave the latter to the last, and expound that as I shall wax to an End.

Now the Babylonians had an Idoll they called Bell, &c.

This Sentence I shall divide into 4. parts, because your understandings (my beloved Brethren) chiefly consisteth in the knowledge of divisions, the particulars are these,

1. The Time. 2. The Nation. 3. The Crime, 4. The Denomination.

The time *Now*, the Nation, the *Babylonians*, the Crime, *had an Idoll*, the Denomination, *called Bell*.

Now the Babylonians had an Idoll called Bell, &c.

First I will begin with the time. You must not conceive that it was 1. 10. 100. or 1000. years ago, but *Now*, even at this present.

Now the Babylon. &c.

Beloved this word *Now*, is a very significant word, and there is much evill and abomination to be hammered out of these 3. letters *Now*, this word doth significantly expound it self several wayes, as at this time, this present, *this Instant*: And my dear Brethren, to tell you the stark-naked truth, never was People so misled by false Speaking, then *Now*: And mark ye well my dearly beloved and ill-guifted Brethren and Sisters, and you shall hear how many sentences or questions, this word *Now* will answer me.

1. When were Golden Crosse, Images, Pictures, and those abominable and superstitious wrestling-poles of the Devill, which the wicked call May-poles, and many other abominations and superstitions suffered to stand in defiance of the Brethren, my Text will answer me

Now.

2. When were lying and scurrilous Pamphlets which abuse the Brethren in Prose and Verse by the name of *Phanaticks*, more in fashion then

Now.

3. There was an abominable *Book* written 1641. intitled

A Medicine for the Times, where assuredly he doth vindicate that limb of the great Whore, called *Cheap-side-Cross*; calling the Saints thieves because (out of their zeal) they stole away some of the Stuffle; for which a dear Brother of ours lost his life upon the pikes: And when was this Book made to draw away the hearts of the people from us, My Text Answers

Now.

Beloved, because I will not trespass upon your patience, and runne beyond my usuall time six hours, I will now conclude this part of my Text, and proceed to the next, which is, the Nation which were *Babylonians*.

Now the *Babylonians* &c.

Beloved, these *Babylonians* are a Nation that inhabited *Babylon*, and derived their name from *Nimrods Tower Babel*, a *Tower* which (according to my Information was four hundred thousand times higher then the *Tower of London*, bearing twice as many hundred thousand great Guns. For it was the intention of that proud *Nimrod* to shoot down heaven. In that Nation lived that Grand Enemy to our Sect, the *Whore of Babylon*, a most *Fathomless Harlot*, and corrupted those that had to doe in *Babel*. And one thing by the way my Brethren (dearly infected) I shall most plainly shew, that the Idolatrous are most grievously addicted to lying: For if you doe look over their Catalogue of their Popes, there are *Lucius*, *Gregory*, *John*, and I know not how many more, all men that are mentioned to be Popes, which is an abominable lye, for my dearly beloved Brethren

Now the Babylonians had an Idoll called Bell, &c.

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Now the Babylon.

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how can this be, you may find it plain somewhere or other as I am told, for you know I cannot read, and how can a man be a Whore. Therefore my good Brethren that if I understand reason, the Popes were all women, and should be called *Pope Joan, Pope Nancy, Pope Susan, and Pope Grace*, for such may be whores. But yet my beloved brethren I would not have you mistake me, now I think on't, *Pope Grace* is not proper, for a Whore has no Grace, beloved, I'll tell you how you shall know this great Whore, and the *Babylonians* (for in some place) as I have heard it's thus written. *And they shall be all of one mind, and shall give up their power unto the Beast* (that is the said Whore :) Now beloved, whatever we do, let us not be all of one mind, for that is a mark of the *Beast*; nor let us give up our power, that is, to live peaceably under Authority, for that is another mark of the *Beast*; but I hope I need not urge this much unto you: so I shall conclude the second part, and will fall upon the third, which is the *Crime*, their Idolatry which they adored: by this time the Devil had well instructed them in making of Idolls, though before *Nimrod* taught them to worship the Sun which shewed his hot zeal to Idolatry, but once more I say I will return to my matter in hand, and to the third part thereof which is their *Crime*, as I told you before.

Now the Babylonians had an Idoll, &c.

And such an Idoll 'twas you will scarce think them wise to adore it, for 'twas made of *Brass* without, and *Clay* within; it had a brazen face, and an earthen heart fill'd with corruption, and fraught with abomination. The word *Idoll* beloved, properly derives it self from *Idle*, which in signification is Sloth and Lazyness, they would employ themselves
in

in nothing but making of Images, a good Trade I'll warrant ye, no doubt but a Journey-man Image maker might get his half Crown a day in those superstitious times. Do you but judge then my dear Assembly, what a brave time they had. But since 'twas their work to set up Images, let us *Now* make it our business to pull them down, nay even to the very ground, and destroy them utterly. There is a good beginning in pulling down the great Idolls, *Chayring* and *Cheapside* Crosses: let us therefore go on, but when you next attempt the wholly destruction of the Nest of Idolls, be not so violent, but go to work according to the Calme motions of the mind, least you suffer the Martyrdome as did our brother as I told you before: but if he had past the muster of the pikes, he had been living *Now*. This Idoll was Brasse without; mark here beloved, what profuse wast was here. I'll warrant ye there was as much brasse spent Idolly as would make half a dozen Kettles, and as many Porridge pots, and there it made only one Bell: and by this you may see the founding of their Idolatrous bells in Steeples, but here I shall make an end of this point and come to the denomination of this Idoll, they call'd him *Bell*, for so my Subject tells me.

Now the Babylonians had an Idol, &c.

This notorious piece of Idolatry called *Bell*, hath his name from that grand enemy to mankind, *Belzebub*; one whom we all know to be the Devill, this *Bell* was made of brasse without, as I have told you; and that is the only reason my dearly beloved that our bells be held in so great esteem amongst the wicked, and so much contemn'd by the Sisters.

This Idol *Bell*, had spent upon him every day 12. great Measures of fine Flower, 40. Sheep, and six Vessels of Wine.

Now

Now, who devoured this Flower? *Bell*, who consumed the 40. Sheep, but *Bell*? Who drank the Wine? 'twas *Bell*, O wicked *Bell*. Beloved I have observed that there's never any good in that word, where *Bell* hath a share in't, for what was *Adam Bell*, but a Hunter, so was *Nimrod* that built that ambitious Tower *Babel*, what was that grand enemy *Bell-armine*, and that mute Alderman *Bell*; and do not the wicked spitefull people curse the brethren with *bell book and candle*. And further do not the wicked at this very time even *Now* here make Lawes against the brethren, and multiply our miseries *don-bell* and *tre-bell*; O! this wicked *Bell*, most abominable in the sight of all the Sisters.

Beloved as I have told you already, this word *Bell* is not to be endured among the brethren nor Sisters, nor the superstitious Crosses, therefore hearken to a word or two and I shall shew you the way to work a reformation: first as to the *Bell* you know in this great City here be above 100. Steeples and six or seaven times as many *Bells*: let them be taken down and sold, and the money employed in propagating the Occupations of the Sisters, and advancing the zealous Trade of *Button-making* in *Moor-fields*, and if the wicked want bells to give them a Summons, I'll warrant ye the good Wives can make Horns to assemble their Husbands, and in truth beloved, it was the only fashion in old time before this Idol was invented.

In the next place my beloved brethren, I'll tell you how to reforme the abuse in Crosses, and so Ile make an end of Speaking at this time. You know beloved, there are many Crosses in and about this place, which we will pull down, and instead thereof set up O; for that poperly follows pulling down of Crosses: And we will give new names to all places that have Crosses in any part of their Names,

as for *Chayring Crofs*, we will call it a *Fatal Ladder*; for you know there was a Ladder on which many of the Brethren went up, and so were cut down again: and for *Cheapside Crofs*, we will call it *Martyrs Place*, for there likewise did some of the Brethren commit Martyrdome; And I think Beloved, that the Pillory is a kind of a Crofs, and that shall be called *The Saints Looking-glasse*, for you all too well know how we saw the face of our dear brother *James Naylor* through that abominable Idoll: One place more there is beloved which is *Crofs Lane*, and that I conceive ought not to be new named, because it is a Field of Recreation for the Brethren, and if at any time we adopt a new Brother, that's a stranger, whom the Spirit moveth to propagate the Seed of the Brethren, and we send him thither by a new name, it will be a means that he go astray and sow his good seed amongst the wicked, and hinder the multiplying of our brotherhood; and these things are to be considered, my dearly beloved, and that in the coole of the Spirit.

Now beloved, having shewn you what this Idoll *Bell* was, and evil meaning of the word by it self, or in company; and also the superstitious meaning of Crofles, and have likewise shewed you how to extirpate the very name and use of both. I should tell you who it was that principally did worship this Idoll *Bell*, who indeed was a great man, as you will find in the words following my Text, who caused it to be made, and therefore I can judge him no other then a *Bell-founder*.

I could proceed further, and double my appointed time upon this scopious subject, but for fear (being too zealous) my Lecture might be termed a Libell; this shall suffice: So I shall referre you to the *Saints Looking-glass*, and pray

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that what I have said may be a means that you my good Brethren, and all the rest of the Brotherhood may also follow the examples of our brethren gone before, that you may hang lovingly together, till every one of you ascend that *Fatal Ladder* which is our chiefeſt aime, and the Brethrens undoubted right. So I conclude, and next Meeting as the Spirit moves, I ſhall perfect the work begun. Repair to your houſes, and conſider theſe ſayings. *Farewell.*

E. I. N. I. S.

